

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A shelf-supporting device for furniture, comprising a main body designed to be secured to a shoulder of a piece of furniture to define a rest surface ~~of on which~~ a shelf ~~to can~~ be supported, and a slidable jaw facing the rest surface at ~~the an~~ upper part thereof and designed to tighten ~~the a~~ shelf against said rest surface, fitting means being present between the slidable jaw and main body to keep the jaw to a desired tightening position, characterized in that ~~it the shelf support~~ comprises an operating button kinematically connected with the fitting means to release ~~it the fitting means~~ when the button is pressed and allow free movement of the jaw at least away from the rest surface.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A shelf-supporting device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the fitting means is of the one-way type, i.e. ~~it~~ and allows free movement of the jaw in a direction ~~close to toward~~ the rest surface.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A shelf-supporting device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the jaw is slidable on the main body by means of a rod projecting from ~~the a~~ lower part of the jaw and slidably inserted in a seat in the main body, said fitting means being disposed between the rod and said main body.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A shelf-supporting device as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the fitting means comprises a saw-toothed rack on a side face of the rod and complementary teeth provided on a lock element fastened to the main body and elastically movable between a position at which the lock element teeth are fitted in the rack and a release position in which the lock element teeth are disengaged from the rack.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A shelf-supporting device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the lock element is pivotally mounted on the main body by means of an elastic pin made unitary with an anti-slip rubber element covering said rest surface for the shelf.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A shelf-supporting device as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the pin also represents a restrained fixing attachment point for the rubber element in the main body.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A shelf-supporting device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the button is rigidly linked to an operating body received and pivotally mounted in a corresponding chamber in the main body and embodying said lock element with its projection provided with said fitting teeth in the rack, on pressing the button the operating body moving along the pivotally mounted pin to disengage said teeth from the rack.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A shelf-supporting device as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that between the operating body and main body ~~there is the presence of reaction means acting~~ in such a manner that on pressing the button ~~there is a displacement of~~ the operating body is displaced against the elastic action of the pin to obtain disengagement of the teeth from the rack.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A shelf-supporting device as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the reaction means comprises a running block laterally projecting from the operating body to slide on an inner surface of the chamber when the button is pressed.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A shelf-supporting device as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the button is inclined to the main body and has a rest surface on the main body on ~~its~~ an end of the button opposite to said running block.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A shelf-supporting device as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the operating body is provided with a pivot hole receiving said elastic pin entering ~~it~~ the pivot hole through a corresponding hole in the main body, and in that said rest surface of the button has a distance from said pivot hole in the operating body that is about the same as the distance of said corresponding hole in the main body from the surface of the main body on which said surface of the button bears.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A shelf-supporting device as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the button is at ~~the~~ a front on said main body and is disposed under the rest surface.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A shelf-supporting device as claimed in claim 12, characterized in that on the opposite side from said button the main body is provided with a